

# The Canadian Courier

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## IN THE PUBLIC VIEW

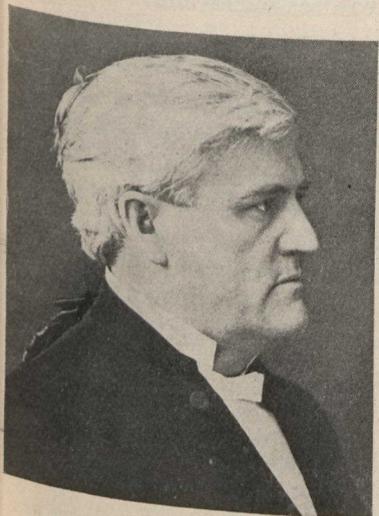


Mr. C. M. Hays,  
Manager Grand Trunk Railway.

**M**R. CHARLES M. HAYS is another of those little men whose brains are near the earth—as one said about Kipling—but who think in continents—a form of thought quite common to railway builders. Mr. Hays is the embodiment of the new Grand Trunk; not the old autocratic iron-bound regime whose swiftest train was a twenty-miles-an-hour headache anywhere between Montreal and Windsor. The original Grand Trunk system much resembled a mill of the gods. The new Grand Trunk personised by Mr. Hays is a thing of go and reach; a system with a transcontinental scope. Nobody understands better than Mr. Hays how the change has been wrought. He came here from a land where railroading is on a

cosmic scale, and he brought a lot of the railway kings with him. He is as aggressive a man as any of his big confreres. Mr. Hays' latest big-thinking includes the Panama Canal and the Grand Trunk Pacific, a sequence which in the first quarter-century of the Grand Trunk would have been considered a good appendix to the Apocrypha or the Tales of the Arabian Nights.

**W**HEN some of us were small boys we heard about De Lesseps, who became a bankrupt trying to dig that stupendous ditch across the Isthmus of Panama. It was all very interesting and somewhat fabulous; and when a few years ago the United States Government undertook to complete the ditch it was still regarded by Canadians as an epic of romance. Now, however, it has begun to seem that the Panama Canal may have a practical use in Canadian political economy. Mr. Hays predicts that Prince Rupert is to become one of the greatest wheat ports in the world. Wheat which now goes more than a thousand miles by rail travel to lake ports must reach the water more cheaply. The Hudson's Bay route is one way and of that much has been said. Mr. Hays thinks that the Grand Trunk Pacific, Prince Rupert and the Panama Canal are to prove a competitor with the old route of the Hudson's Bay Company. He foresees a triangle of great wheat ports—Fort William added to Port Arthur, possibly Fort Churchill and Prince Rupert. He states that the gradients on the Grand Trunk Pacific will enable wheat to ship westward as well as eastward.

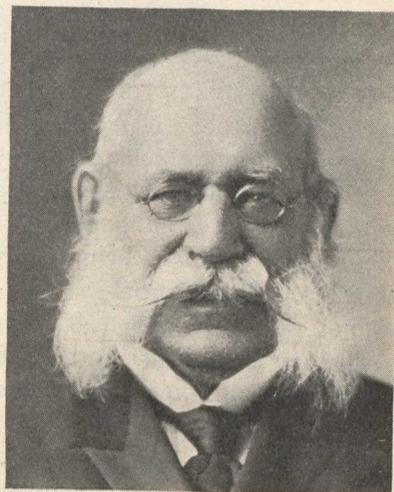


Mr. Charles Marcil, M.P.,  
Probable Speaker.

Once it gets to the water he is not so much concerned. It is a long drift from Prince Rupert to Liverpool via the Panama Canal; but the railway man says the route is economically possible. For the present, the statement must be accepted.

**I**T is the fate of some French-Canadians to become Speakers. From Quebec we get the polish and the courtly finesse that imparts dignity to the Chair. Our English-Canadians are too practical and plain. They do not look well on thrones. Hon. Charles Marcil, of Bonaventure, who may preside over the next session of Parliament, has as much of the silken finish and the suggestion of pomp as any of his predecessors. Yet he has been a plain scribe; one who brandished an

editorial pen and was equally facile with his tongue. Of late he has been rather abused by the Opposition press, one of whom the other day depicted him in a cartoon as leaving behind him the valise containing his record in Bonaventure, because he would not find it of much use in Ottawa. Bonaventure is so poetic a name that it seems malice to suspect any shadow of a smirch on an election there. However, Mr. Marcil has been for eight years member for Bonaventure and in his second term he was elected Deputy-Speaker of the House. He is a combination of French and Irish—his mother being Irish, which for temperament is hard to surpass. The *Montreal Witness*, which is usually impartial about the careers of public men, regards Mr. Marcil as an eminently worthy successor to the dignity of the Speaker's Chair. His best friends hope that the Speakership will be a true "bonaventure" for him.



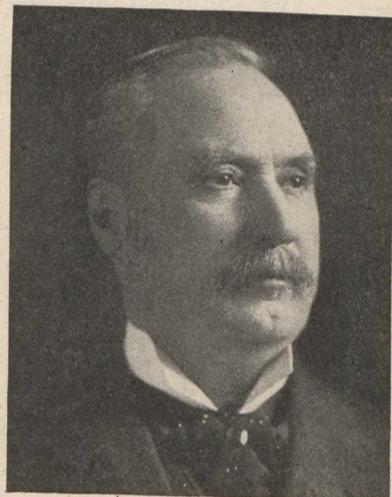
Sir Richard Cartwright,  
Who is to lead the Senate.

**T**HE new leader of the Senate, in succession to the Hon. R.

W. Scott, who has retired from active service, is to be Sir Richard Cartwright, Minister of Trade and Commerce. It was thought by many that his physical infirmities would prevent his taking up these somewhat arduous duties. Indeed, some people thought that his retirement was more likely than his promotion. His address in Toronto, during the elections campaign, showed that his mental grasp has lost none of its strength and keenness, and Sir Wilfrid seems to have lost none of his confidence in the ancient warrior. He was born at Kingston on December 4th, 1835, so that he will pardon the term "ancient." It is 45 years since he first entered Parliament, and it is 35 years since he became Finance Minister under Hon. Alexander Mackenzie. He was created a K.C.M.G. in 1879.

**M**R. ROBERT BICKERDIKE, M.P., who was recently re-elected member for St. Lawrence division, Montreal, during his absence in Europe, is an advocate of the annexation of Newfoundland, Miquelon and St. Pierre. He wants to see the British dominions in North America rounded up under one government, working in full accord with the Imperial authorities. He has little sympathy with the ideas of Mr. J. J. Hill and Mr. Andrew Carnegie concerning Anglo-Saxon union in North America. Mr. Bickerdike is one of the leaders in the cattle export trade, is a past-president of the Montreal Board of Trade and has filled many public positions. He was a member of the Quebec Legislature for a while and later went to Ottawa. A man of few words, he is known as a good counsellor and a solid business man.

**L**ORD MINTO has found it necessary "to take up arms against a sea of troubles" in India. On December 12th the Council of India passed a bill for the trial of conspirators against Government in India, the most notorious of which are the societies that have lately sprung up for the boycotting of British goods and incidentally for purposes of high murder. The Viceroy vigorously supported the measure and in strong language denounced the organisation as one "whose acknowledged aims are the systematic assassination of Government officials, the discrediting of the British Administration and the expulsion of British rule from India."



Mr. Robert Bickerdike,  
Member for St. Lawrence, Montreal.